

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Dave Schletty, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director**
Date: **January 13, 2020**

Recognition of West St Paul Youth Athletic Association

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City and youth of West St Paul have had their sports needs served for many years by the West St Paul Youth Athletic Association (WSPYAA). Throughout the years, WSPYAA has provided opportunities for kids to play many team sports at both a recreational and competitive level. At one time, the WSPYAA offered the following team sports:

- Boys and Girls Hockey
- Baseball
- Fastpitch Softball
- Football
- Boys and Girls Soccer

Today most of those sports have merged with other Cities, Associations or Clubs. Currently the WSPYAA still maintains a top-notch baseball program. West St Paul has a long documented history of baseball and the WSPYAA continues that tradition. Starting as young as age 5, kids are have the opportunity to learn and grow the game of baseball. The in-house program for ages 5-11 serves as a great feeder for the tournament and traveling teams for ages 10-15. Many of these kids end up playing at a high level into their high school years, but the program also competes at lower levels giving kids of all abilities the opportunity to be a part of America's pastime.

The City has shown a commitment to kids of West St Paul with improvements to Harmon Park and the creation of a true little league experience. The WSPYAA has been a great partner of the City in utilizing those facilities and keeping West St Paul on the Twin Cities baseball map.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Recognize the contributions of the West St Paul Youth Athletic Association to the City of West St Paul.